

Assemblymember Christine Kehoe



*Brings You News
From Sacramento*

July 25, 2003



Assemblymember Christine Kehoe, Speaker Pro Tem

Attorney General Files Junk Fax Lawsuit against FAX.COM

Junk faxes, like junk mail, are downright annoying. What's even more annoying is that the recipients have to pay for them in wasted paper and ink. That's why I authored a bill last year to make junk faxes illegal.

Protecting Californians from having home and office fax machines hijacked by junk fax advertisers was the goal of AB 2944, which was signed into law last year. The 2002 California law enables the Attorney General to file suits against violators under the federal Telephone Consumer Protection Act, which prohibits junk faxes and prerecorded messages by phone.

This week, Attorney General Bill Lockyer filed a consumer protection lawsuit against Fax.com, for sending junk faxes in California. Fax.com has allegedly committed widespread violations of the laws protecting consumers against junk fax advertisements.

Lockyer's lawsuit seeks more than \$15 million in penalties and other relief from Fax.com, and alleges the company has also violated state laws that prohibit unfair competition, and has charged the company with false or misleading advertising.

Kudos to the Attorney General for taking this action and protecting consumers - junk faxes aren't free speech and they aren't protected by the First Amendment, as Fax.com claims. Junk faxes are wasteful, intrusive, and now against the law. End of story.

For more information on the lawsuit, visit the Attorney General's website at:

<http://caag.state.ca.us/newsalerts/2003/03-089.htm>.

Budget News – What's at stake for Women

Last week the Senate debated and voted against passing a Republican budget plan that was presented on the floor on Tuesday, July 15.

The Republican Budget plan sought to deny constitutionally protected rights for women and cut funding for family planning programs as a solution to our state budget crisis. The Republican proposal would have eliminated all teen-pregnancy prevention programs and state-funded reproductive health care services, including contraception and HIV testing. The plan would have also eliminated the Battered Women's Shelter Program, the Department of Fair Employment and Housing, and the California Commission on the Status of Women.

Such drastic cuts would have undoubtedly resulted in a rise in the teenage birth rate, which is at its lowest level in four decades, and increase the spread of HIV/AIDS due to reduced access to condoms and HIV Testing. Eliminating the Battered Women's Shelter Program, which serves more than 100,000 women and children annually, would result in the loss of funding for more than 95 programs that offer emergency food, clothing, shelter, counseling, emergency room services, and legal assistance for victims of domestic violence.

I continue to work for you in Sacramento, and am keeping your views in mind as the budget debates continue.

To let me know how you feel about this issue, please email me at:

Assemblymember.Kehoe@assembly.ca.gov

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Tracking Legislation

If you're interested in keeping track of specific legislation, there's an easy way to use the Assembly's website to create a personal "Subscription List" and automatically receive free e-mail updates on bill changes. Begin by going to www.assembly.ca.gov/. From there:

- Click **Legislation** button in left navigation
- Type in bill author, number or subject; click **Search** (if multiple bills appear, select appropriate bill by clicking on bill number)
- When bill information is displayed, click **Subscribe** at bottom of page
- Enter your email address, click **OK**.

The San Diego Regional Energy Office

Interested in learning more about energy issues? Want to find more information on deregulation, energy rebates, or alternative energy options in San Diego?

The San Diego Regional Energy Office (SDREO) is an independent, public-benefit, non-profit organization that provides objective information, research, analysis and long-term planning on energy issues for the San Diego region.

SDREO serves as a link between consumers and government and is currently managing millions of dollars in public funds through a variety of rebate, incentive and education programs. For more information on the office and their many programs, go to <http://www.sdenergy.org/>.



Another Successful Mobile Office

Thanks to those who visited my mobile office in Clairemont on Saturday, July 12th. I was grateful to see so many people stop by and say hello, share their support and ask questions. Visiting the mobile office is a great way to let me know what issues are important to you, and gives me the opportunity to stay in touch with my neighbors.

I host numerous Mobile Office events each year. I'll be sure to keep you posted on the date and location of the next Mobile Office.



Assembly-member Kehoe meets with constituents at her mobile office in Clairemont



LGBT Pride Parade Open House - Saturday, July 26

Enjoy refreshments, friends and fun before the San Diego LGBT Pride Parade begins. I'm hosting an open house Saturday, July 26 from 10 - 11 a.m. in my district office.

My office is located in Hillcrest's Uptown District, 1010 University, Suite C-207 (in the Ralphs Grocery store plaza) I hope to see you there!

Assemblymember Kehoe at the 2002 LGBT Pride Parade

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